

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of for designing an electronic assembly, the method comprising the steps of:

transmitting a user interface ~~application from a server machine to a client machine via a publicly-accessible global network~~ that requests entry of electronic assembly design data,

receiving user-supplied electronic assembly design data ~~input into the client machine~~ via the user interface,

retrieving assembly cost data ~~from an assembly cost database~~ in response to receiving the user-supplied electronic assembly design data from an assembly cost database, the assembly cost data including a materials cost and a processing cost, and

updating the user interface ~~application~~ on the client machine ~~in response to~~ using the assembly cost data.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the transmitting step includes~~ transmitting a user interface comprises transmitting the user interface ~~application to the a~~ client machine via ~~the a~~ publicly-accessible global network in response to a user-supplied request received by ~~the a~~ server machine via the publicly-accessible global network.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the transmitting step includes~~ transmitting a user interface comprises transmitting the user interface application from ~~the a~~ server machine to ~~the a~~ client machine via the Internet.

4. (Currently Amended) The method claim 1, wherein ~~the transmitting step includes transmitting a user interface comprises~~ transmitting an assembly cost database with the user interface application from ~~the~~ a server machine to ~~the~~ a client machine via ~~the~~ a publicly-accessible global network.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the receiving step includes receiving user-supplied electronic assembly design data comprises~~ receiving user-supplied electronic assembly design data via an input device of ~~the~~ a client machine.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the receiving step includes receiving user-supplied electronic assembly design data comprises~~ receiving user-supplied electronic assembly design data via ~~the~~ a publicly-accessible global network.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the retrieving step includes retrieving assembly cost data comprises~~ retrieving the assembly cost data from an assembly cost database stored on ~~the~~ a client machine in response to the user-supplied electronic assembly design data.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the retrieving step includes retrieving assembly cost data comprises~~ retrieving the assembly cost data, via ~~the~~ a publicly-accessible global network, from an assembly cost database stored on ~~the~~ a server machine in response to ~~the~~ a user-supplied electronic assembly design data.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the retrieving step includes retrieving assembly cost data comprises~~ includes retrieving the assembly cost data from ~~the~~ a server machine via ~~the~~ a publicly-accessible global network.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the step~~ of retrieving assembly capability data from an assembly capability database in response to the user-supplied electronic assembly design data.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, further comprising ~~the step~~ of updating the user interface ~~application on the~~ a client machine based on the assembly capability data.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein updating the user interface ~~application on the~~ a client machine based on the assembly capability data includes displaying a traffic light image to a user.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the step~~ of determining a per-unit assembly cost value based on the assembly cost data.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein ~~the determining step includes~~ determining a per-unit assembly cost value comprises determining a per-unit setup cost value and a per-unit run cost value.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein determining the per-unit setup cost value and the per-unit run cost value ~~includes~~ comprises determining a per-unit setup cost value and a per-unit run cost value for each work center of an electronic assembly process in response to the user-supplied electronic assembly design data.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein ~~the updating step~~ includes updating the user interface comprises displaying the per-unit assembly cost value to the user.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining a tooling cost value in response to and associated with the user-supplied electronic assembly design data.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein ~~the determining step includes~~ determining a tooling cost value comprises determining a tooling cost value based on the assembly cost data.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the steps~~ of:

determining a user selected-portion of the user interface ~~application~~,
retrieving an electronic assembly design image based on the user
selected-portion, and
displaying the electronic assembly design image on ~~the~~ a client machine to
the user.

20. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of~~ for designing an electronic assembly,
the method comprising the steps of:

transmitting a user interface ~~application from a server machine to a client~~
~~machine via a publicly-accessible global network~~ that requests entry of electronic assembly design
data,

receiving user-supplied electronic assembly design data via the user interface ~~input into the client machine,~~

retrieving assembly capability data ~~from an assembly capability database~~ that indicates the manufacturing capability of an electronic assembly manufacturer in response to receiving the user-supplied electronic assembly design data from an assembly capability database, and

updating the user interface ~~application on the client machine~~ based on the assembly ~~cost~~ capability data.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein ~~the transmitting step includes~~ transmitting a user interface comprises transmitting the user interface application to ~~the~~ a client machine via ~~the~~ a publicly-accessible global network in response to a user-supplied request received by ~~the~~ a server machine via the publicly-accessible global network.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein ~~the transmitting step includes~~ transmitting a user interface comprises transmitting the user interface application from ~~the~~ a server machine to ~~the~~ a client machine via the Internet.

23. (Currently Amended) The method claim 20, wherein ~~the transmitting step includes~~ transmitting a user interface comprises transmitting an assembly capability database with the user interface ~~application~~ from ~~the~~ a server machine to ~~the~~ a client machine via ~~the~~ a publicly-accessible global network.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein ~~the receiving step includes~~ receiving user-supplied electronic assembly design data comprises receiving user-supplied electronic assembly design data via an input device of ~~the~~ a client machine.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein ~~the receiving step~~ includes receiving user-supplied electronic assembly design data comprises receiving user-supplied electronic assembly design data via ~~the~~ a publicly-accessible global network.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein ~~the retrieving step~~ includes retrieving assembly capability data comprises retrieving assembly capability data from an assembly capability database stored on ~~the~~ a client machine in response to the user-supplied electronic assembly design data.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein ~~the retrieving step~~ includes retrieving assembly capability data comprises retrieving assembly capability data, via ~~the~~ a publicly-accessible global network, from an assembly capability database stored on ~~the~~ a server machine based on the user-supplied electronic assembly design data.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27, wherein ~~the retrieving step~~ includes retrieving assembly capability data comprises retrieving the assembly capability data via ~~the~~ a publicly-accessible global network.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein ~~the updating step~~ includes updating the user interface comprises displaying a traffic light image to a user.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, further comprising ~~the steps~~ of:

determining a user selected-portion of the user interface application,

retrieving an electronic assembly design image based on the user selected-portion, and

displaying the electronic assembly design image on the a client machine to the user.

31. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~for~~ designing an electronic assembly, the method comprising the steps of:

transmitting a user interface ~~application from a server machine to a client machine via a publicly-accessible global network~~ that requests entry of electronic assembly design data,

receiving user-supplied electronic assembly design data via the user interface input into the client machine,

retrieving assembly cost data ~~from an assembly cost database~~ in response to receiving the user-supplied electronic assembly design data from an assembly cost database,

retrieving assembly capability data ~~from an assembly capability database~~ that indicates the manufacturing capability of an electronic assembly manufacturer in response to receiving the user-supplied electronic assembly design data from an assembly capability database, and

updating the user interface ~~application on the client machine~~ based on at least one of the assembly cost data and the assembly capability data.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31, wherein ~~the transmitting step includes~~ transmitting a user interface comprises transmitting the user interface application to the a client machine via the a publicly-accessible global network in response to a user-supplied request received by the a server machine via the publicly-accessible global network.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31, wherein ~~the transmitting step includes~~ transmitting a user interface comprises transmitting the user interface application from ~~the~~ a server machine to ~~the~~ a client machine via the Internet.

34. (Currently Amended) The method claim 31, wherein ~~the transmitting step includes~~ transmitting a user interface comprises transmitting an assembly cost database and an assembly capability database from ~~the~~ a server machine to ~~the~~ a client machine via ~~the~~ a publicly-accessible global network.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31, wherein ~~the receiving step includes~~ receiving user-supplied electronic assembly design data comprises receiving user-supplied electronic assembly design data via an input device of ~~the~~ a client machine.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31, wherein ~~the receiving step includes~~ receiving user-supplied electronic assembly design data comprises receiving user-supplied electronic assembly design data via ~~the~~ a publicly-accessible global network.

37. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31, wherein retrieving assembly cost data ~~includes~~ comprises retrieving assembly cost data from an assembly cost database stored on ~~the~~ a client machine in response to the user-supplied electronic assembly design data.

38. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31, wherein retrieving assembly cost data ~~includes~~ comprises retrieving assembly cost data from an assembly cost database stored on ~~the~~ a server machine in response to the user-supplied electronic assembly design data.

39. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31, wherein retrieving assembly cost data ~~includes~~ comprises retrieving the assembly cost data from an assembly cost database via ~~the~~ a publicly-accessible global network

40. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31, wherein retrieving assembly capability data ~~includes~~ comprises retrieving assembly capability data from an assembly capability database stored on ~~the~~ a client machine in response to the user-supplied electronic assembly design data.

41. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31, wherein retrieving assembly capability data ~~includes~~ comprises retrieving assembly capability data from an assembly capability database stored on ~~the~~ a server machine in response to the user-supplied electronic assembly design data.

42. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31, wherein retrieving assembly capability data ~~includes~~ comprises retrieving the assembly capability data from an assembly capability database via ~~the~~ a publicly-accessible global network

43. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31, wherein updating the user interface ~~application on the client machine includes~~ comprises displaying a traffic light image to a user.

44. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31, further comprising determining a per-unit assembly cost value based on the assembly cost data.

45. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 44, wherein ~~the determining step includes~~ determining a per-unit assembly cost value comprises determining a per-unit setup cost value and a per-unit run cost value.

46. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 45, wherein determining a per-unit setup cost value and a per-unit run cost value ~~includes~~ comprises determining a per-unit setup cost value and a per-unit run cost value for each work center of a electronic assembly process in response to the user-supplied electronic assembly design data.

47. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 44, wherein ~~the updating step includes~~ updating the user interface comprises displaying the per-unit assembly cost value to the user.

48. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31, further comprising determining a tooling cost value in response and associated with to the user-supplied electronic assembly design data.

49. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 48, wherein ~~the determining step includes~~ determining a tooling cost value comprises determining a tooling cost value based on the assembly cost data.

50. (Currently Amended) An article comprising a computer-readable signal-bearing medium having therein a plurality of instructions which, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to:

display a user interface ~~application~~ that requests entry of electronic assembly design data to a user ~~of a client machine,~~

retrieve assembly cost data ~~from an assembly cost database~~ in response to receiving user-supplied electronic assembly design data from an assembly cost database ~~input into the client machine,~~

retrieve assembly capability data ~~from an assembly capability database~~ that indicates the manufacturing capability of an electronic assembly manufacturer in response to receiving the user-supplied electronic assembly design data from an assembly capability database, and

update the user interface ~~application on the client machine~~ based on at least one of the assembly cost data and the assembly capability data.

51. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 50, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by the processor, further cause the processor to retrieve the assembly cost data from a the assembly cost database via a publicly-accessible global network.

52. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 50, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by the processor, further cause the processor to retrieve the assembly capability data from a the assembly capability database via ~~the~~ a publicly-accessible global network.